

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: ANTI-SEMITISM IN ARGENTINA

1. AMBASSADOR HILL AND ECA OFFICERS MET WITH MORTON ROSEN-
THAL, DIRECTOR OF THE LATIN AMERICAN OFFICE OF THE ANTI-
DEFAMATION LEAGUE OF B'NAI B'RITH ON AUGUST 30.
ROSENTHAL REVIEWED RECENT SPATE OF ANTI-SEMITIC INCIDENTS
IN ARGENTINA. ACCORDING TO HIS (AND PRESS) REPORTS,
SYNAGOGUES HAVE BEEN BOMBED, JEWISH SHOPS SHOT UP AND
THERE HAS BEEN A FLOOD OF ANTI-SEMITIC LITERATURE.
ROSENTHAL ASKED FOR REPRESENTATIONS BY US EMBASSY TO
ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. AMBASSADOR VOICED HIS CONCERN OVER
THESE INCIDENTS AND PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THIS MATTER AS
SOON AS HE RETURNED TO BUENOS AIRES. HE ALSO NOTED THAT
HE WOULD CONSULT WITH ISRAELI AMBASSADOR AND WITH OTHER
WESTERN AMBASSADORS ABOUT RECRUDESCENCE OF ANTI-SEMITISM
IN ARGENTINA.

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2. DAVID GELLER OF AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE RAISED SAME SUBJECT WITH DEPTOFFS ON AUGUST 24.

3. AUGUST 30 NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE BY JUAN DE ONIS REPORTS THAT GOA INTENDS TO BAN PUBLICATION, DISTRIBUTION AND EXPORT OF NAZI LITERATURE IN ARGENTINA. IF SO,DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY CONFIRMATION.

4. DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT VIDELA GOVERNMENT HAS SAID PUBLICLY ABOUT TERRORISM DIRECTED AT JEWS. THIS SUBJECT HAS ALREADY SURFACED IN CONGRESS AND U.S. PRESS AND COULD GENERATE SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL CRITICISM OF ARGENTINA IF ACTION IS NOT TAKEN TO CURB ARGENTINE ANTI-SEMITISM. ROBINSON

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